

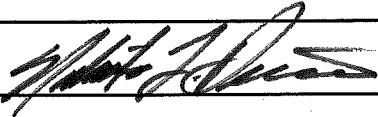
TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Albert Balagso

**SUBJECT: GREENPRINT 2009 UPDATE
CHANGES FROM DRAFT**

DATE: 10-26-09

Approved



Date

10-26-09

INFORMATION

On Tuesday, September 8, 2009 the Mayor and City Council held a study session on the draft Greenprint 2009 Update. The purpose of this information memo is to provide an update on the proposed changes that staff is planning for the final Greenprint 2009 Update as a result of the feedback received from the study session.

Based on feedback received to date, key themes that will be stressed in the final Greenprint 2009 Update include:

- Focusing on a balanced park system for each planning area, which includes a combination of acreage, parks, trails and recreational facilities;
- Continuing to utilize the ratio of 3.5 acres per 1,000 residents as the service level goal with 2.0 of these acres possible through recreational school grounds and working with the Schools-City Collaborative to enhance access to school sites;
- Providing an interconnected system of parks and facilities through the trail network and showing strong linkages to the bicycle network;
- Focusing on financially and environmentally sustainable projects which includes trails, infrastructure backlog, partnerships, land banking and sports fields;
- Increasing the nexus for spending park trust funds on community serving amenities from two to three miles, with further justification being provided;
- Providing detail in the final document regarding the operations and maintenance costs associated with providing a balanced park system in each Planning Area.

In addition to the key themes listed above, specific changes and edits that will be made to the final Greenprint 2009 Update include:

- Stressing the importance of larger parks and the utilization that they receive;
- Providing additional tables showing the relative park acreage deficits per Planning Area in the current year and projected for 2020;
- Providing guidelines regarding the minimum requirements for a successful joint use partnership with a school district, using the Leland High School agreement as a model;

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- Stressing that while adding parks to underserved areas is important, the underserved areas are not always the highest priorities for new park development depending upon the priorities of the individual planning areas;
- Ensuring that barriers such as expressways and freeways are used when determining the underserved areas per the Environmental Accords goal;
- Adding a table in Chapter 5 which shows the acres per 1,000 population in each Planning Area as well as the deficits as compared to the service level of 3.5 acres per 1,000;
- Stressing accessibility of parks and recreation facilities and discussing plans to further expand the City's design guidelines to incorporate accessibility;
- Fixing the formatting on the table of contents;
- Modifying the text regarding the use of the General Fund ending fund balance on parks facilities to align with current City policies and practices.

Following the City Council study session, staff presented the draft Greenprint 2009 Update to the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) on October 7, 2009. The PRC recommended approval of the document with particular changes requested to be incorporated.

Staff is in the process of evaluating the changes requested by the PRC, as well as other comments received to date, and is planning on providing final recommendations on these items as part of the Neighborhood Services and Education (NSE) Committee and City Council approval of the Greenprint 2009 Update document in November and December, respectively.


Albert Balagso
Director of Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services

For questions please contact Matt Cano, Division Manager, at 408-535-3580.